

THE UTILITY OF LIZARDS

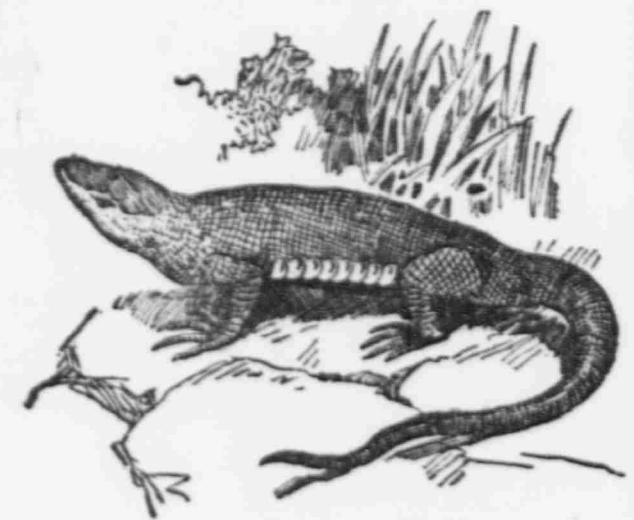
A GEORGIAN USES THEM TO PROTECT HIS ORCHARDS.

They Devour Destructive Insects. How the Little Reptiles Are Watered and Kept From Wandering Away.

(Special Correspondence.)

ATLANTA, March 12.—There is but one state in the Union where an ordinary lizard is a merchantable commodity. It is in Georgia, and in that state there is but one market where these reptiles may be disposed of for a consideration.

Near a little town called Mount Airy, Ga., is a fruit grower who buys lizards. The small boys thereabout, in consequence, occupy themselves during certain seasons in giving chase to these little slippery, elusive and groveling animals in order to earn a few pennies by their sale. The lizard market does not fluctuate. Any fair specimen dur-



ARBORAL LIZARD.

ing the season may be sold to this fruit grower at the uniform price of 1 cent each.

The gentleman who purchases these reptiles is Judge John P. Fort of Demorest, Ga., who uses them for the purpose of destroying injurious insects which from time to time gather upon his fruit trees. The idea is a novel one and originated in the mind of Judge Fort.

Some years ago Judge Fort set out trees for a small fruit farm, four miles from Mount Airy, upon which he planted peaches, cherries, apples and grapes. For a long time he was sorely troubled with insects which destroyed his trees and their fruit. He never obtained complete relief until about two years ago, when he called in the assistance of the neighboring lizards. One day a few of these reptiles found their way into the judge's orchard, and he noticed they were having a feast upon the insects lodged in one of his cherry trees. It was then and there that to the fruit grower occurred the happy idea which has since proved so valuable to him. Since then he has spent over \$100 for lizards and at this time has in the neighborhood of 10,000 of the little guardians patrolling his orchards. This number makes about one lizard to each tree, the fruit farm having latterly grown to greater proportions. Judge Fort now has in the neighborhood of 12,000 trees bearing fine fruit.

Judge Fort's first purchase of lizards amounted to about 150 in number, costing him the small amount of \$1.50. They were brought to him by small boys from all directions, the news having quickly spread that the fruit grower was in the market for these little animals. Some of them naturally strayed away, and of those remaining many died. It was in a dry season and it did not take the observing farmer long to discover that it was from a lack of water that the lizards were suffering. He quickly overcame this difficulty by securing a large number of tin cans, sinking them in the ground near the roots of trees here and there and keeping them filled with water. There are now sunk in the ground of these orchards about 2,500 tin cans, which are for the sole and exclusive use of the lizards. To see the lizards visit these receptacles for a drink of water during the day is an odd sight. It has never been found necessary to feed the lizards, but it is a matter of much labor and attention to keep them supplied with water at times. During rainy spells nature keeps these miniature wells well supplied, but when the clouds for a long interval withhold their refreshing fluid the lizards' cans have to be filled by hand, which is by no means a small undertaking.

Judge Fort is greatly interested in the study of lizards, but he is reticent in divulging the result of his reptile studies. He, however, says that he has no trouble in managing his large army of lizards. They require no training or drilling in order to perform their duties. Upon purchasing them, he puts them to work on vacant trees, and they seem contented to stay in their new found home, living on insects and drinking from the tin cans. In purchasing lizards there is only one stipulation the judge makes, and that is the little reptiles must be those of arboral habits. When the fruit grower first commenced the purchase of lizards, he was often fooled and frequently bought a little reptile which would slip away and make for the woods as soon as it escaped from the clutches of its purchaser. But you can't fool Judge Fort on a lizard now. He can tell in

an instant when a lizard is offered him whether it is one of the good little reptiles which will stay at home and work or whether it might be expected to give him the slip at the first opportunity.

Catching lizards is by no means an easy task, and the price secured for them after capture is well earned. The species most found in Georgia is known as the scaly lizard. It is a little animal about six inches long. These little creatures are so quick and sharp sighted it is difficult to catch them, especially if they are among bushes, for they twist about so adroitly that a very smart movement of the hand is required to follow them.

CARL G. LINK.

A. R. De Fluent, editor of the Journal, Doylestown, Ohio, suffered for a number of years from rheumatism in his right shoulder and side. He says: "My right arm at times was entirely useless. I tried Chamberlain's Pain Balm, and was surprised to receive relief almost immediately. The Pain Balm has been a constant companion of mine ever since and it never fails." For sale by B. R. Wilson & Son.

PORTO RICO WEALTH.

What May Be Expected of the Sugar and Coffee Industries.

(Special Correspondence.)

PONCE, March 7.—The people of the United States have as yet only a superficial knowledge of the wealth of Porto Rico. Many past statements regarding the future of the island seemed exaggerated, but recent investigations confirm the most extreme view of the limitless resources of our new possession. With life and property secure, the island is slowly but surely enjoying an industrial resurrection.

In the past crops have been raised in primitive ways. The world is beginning to recognize that it takes as much brains and industry to be a successful agriculturist as it does to succeed in any other department of activity. So in Porto Rico it is seen that new and more scientific methods must be utilized. Labor saving machinery must be imported. If under former conditions the island was an annual source of wealth to Spain, it is difficult to foresee all the advantages which American rule will foster.

The principal crop of Porto Rico is coffee, and in 1895, when the largest



CARRYING TOBACCO TO MARKET.

production occurred, the output was valued at about \$10,000,000. Under the Spanish regime much of the coffee was sent to that country and part of the crop was exported to Italy and France. For this reason Americans did not get well acquainted with the Porto Rican variety. As is well known, climate and soil conditions affect coffee flavors. American army officers and late tourists have come to prefer the Porto Rican coffee. It is certain that the United States will receive large consignments of coffee in the near future. The new brands have got to fight for public favor. Coffee dealers and brokers in the United States oppose the coming of a new competitor, as they have certain grades and brands of their own. Porto Rico can produce over \$20,000,000 worth of coffee each year, and when Americans become accustomed to its flavor the future of the industry will be assured.

Sugar is another important crop. The annual yield is about \$5,000,000. On the sugar plantations expensive machinery is required, and this fact prevents men of small means from engaging in the business. Formerly large profits were made, and this was in spite of adverse conditions. If some of the projected trolley lines are built, it will be possible to secure electric power for the sugar plantations.

Another important source of wealth is the tobacco industry. About 4,000 acres are devoted to the culture of the plant, and \$3,000,000 is a fair estimate of the value of the annual exportation. The quality of the leaf is declared by many to be excellent. Land suitable for raising the plant may be purchased at a low figure. Labor is plentiful, but is asking for higher wages. One small farm, costing its owner \$3,000, yielded in one year \$12,000 cash money. It was formerly the custom to export the Porto Rican tobacco to Cuba, and there it was mixed with the products of the latter island. We will get better acquainted with the Porto Rican product in the near future.

Porto Rico will in the near future become a winter resort. The climate is delightful, and a few of the roads are very fine. The mountains are high, and a number of locations for hotels

When a Chinaman becomes a criminal, the law punishes his parents and even the grandparents. This is only the extreme logical application of the doctrine of heredity. In this country, we leave natural law to deal with its own offenses, and many a mother is punished through the physical weakness and peevish temper of puny offspring.

Women mainly err through ignorance. They enter the marriage state already disordered by irregularity of the periods. The delicate and sensitive organs, peculiarly feminine, are in no condition for the shock which is consequent on the great change. Drains that are offensive and debilitating are set up, inflammation and ulceration with female trouble are added in time, and when motherhood comes the strength of body is inadequate, and the condition of mind unfit, for the responsibility. The natural result is a child that is unhealthy and unhappy.

Happy wifehood, healthy motherhood, beautiful children, all follow the use of Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription. It stops the drains, allays inflammation, heals ulceration, cures female trouble, soothes the nerves, and puts the delicate female organs in a condition of perfect health. Mrs. Annie Blacker, of 629 Catharine Street, Syracuse, N. Y., writes: "Your medicines have done wonders for me. For years my health was very poor; I had four miscarriages, but since taking Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery and Favorite Prescription, I have much better health, and now I have a fine, healthy baby. I have recommended your medicines to several of my friends and they have been benefited by them."

Women find valuable help in Dr. Pierce's Common Sense Medical Adviser. Sent free on receipt of stamps to pay cost of mailing only. Send 21 one-cent stamps for the book in paper binding, or 31 stamps for cloth binding. Address Dr. R. V. Pierce, Buffalo, N. Y.

may be found. Then, too, the manners and customs of the people are so strange and attractive that many American tourists will wish to visit the island. This will bring money and stimulate trade.

Porto Rico is capable of producing many kinds of tropical fruits. Oranges and bananas grow here, and so do lemons. There is great need here for vegetables, and truck farms should be very profitable.

The most flourishing of all industries in Porto Rico at the present time is that of cattle raising. The beef eaten here is all raised on the island. The cattle are not milk producers, and it follows that there is a pronounced need for dairy products. Chickens are likewise in demand, as well as butter and eggs.

The American occupation of the island has worked wonders for Porto Rico. It is not necessary to dwell upon the deplorable condition of affairs existing in former days. Chaos has given place to order. The steamers connecting the island with American ports bring flocks of men who come to invest money. On the return voyages an increasingly large amount of produce is sent away from Porto Rico.

After living in Porto Rico for nearly a year I am glad to testify to the satisfactory conditions which are present here. It is certain that the natives have seen enough of American rule to appreciate it. The future of Porto Rico from a moral, political and industrial standpoint is assured.

JAMES G. JOHNSON.

L. T. Travis, agent Southern railroad, Selma, Ga., writes: "I cannot say too much in praise of One Minute Cough Cure. In my case it worked like a charm." The only harmless remedy that gives immediate results. Cures coughs, colds, croup, bronchitis and all throat and lung troubles. B. R. Wilson & Son.

"That deal you have just engineered will be quite a feather in your cap." "A feather in my cap?" echoes the financier. "It will be a whole bunch of feathers in my wife's hat."—Washington Star.

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Harold: This is Bessler, the famous inventor of the triple-expansion engine, the automatic double-back-action-reversible-rapid-fire-gun, the compound-electro-hydro-heated dynamo, the— Rupert: But he looks distracted. Harold: Yes; he can't invent a plausible excuse to give his wife, and he hasn't got home!—Pack.

Story of a Slave.

To be bound hand and foot for years by the chains of disease is the worst form of slavery. George D. Williams, of Manchester, Mich., tells how such a slave was made free. He says: "My wife has been so helpless for five years that she could not turn over in bed alone. After using two bottles of Electric Bitters she is wonderfully improved and able to do her own work." This supreme remedy for female diseases quickly cures nervousness, sleeplessness, melancholy, headache, backache, fainting and dizzy spells. This miracle working medicine is a godsend to weak, sickly, run down people. Every bottle guaranteed, only 50 cents, sold by B. R. Wilson & Son, druggists.

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I have used Ripans Tablets with so much satisfaction that I can cheerfully recommend them. Have been troubled for about three years with what I called bilious attacks coming on regularly once a week. Was told by different physicians that it was caused by bad teeth, of which I had several. I had the teeth extracted, but the attacks continued. I had seen advertisements of Ripans Tablets in all the papers but had no faith in them, but about six weeks since a friend induced me to try them. Have taken but two of the small 5 cent boxes of the Tablets and have had no recurrence of the attacks. Have never given a testimonial for anything before, but the great amount of good which I believe has been done me by Ripans Tablets induces me to add mine to the many testimonials you doubtless have in your possession now.

A. T. DEWITT.

I have been a great sufferer from constipation for over five years. Nothing gave me any relief. My feet and legs and abdomen were bloated so I could not wear shoes on my feet and only a loose dress. I saw Ripans Tablets advertised in our daily paper, bought some and took them as directed. Have taken them about three weeks and there is such a change! I am not constipated any more and I owe it all to Ripans Tablets. I am thirty-seven years old, have no occupation, only my household duties and nursing my sick husband. He has had the dropsy and I am trying Ripans Tablets for him. He feels some better but it will take some time, he has been sick so long. You may use my letter and name as you like.

Mrs. MARY GORMAN CLARK.

I have been suffering from headaches ever since I was a little girl. I could never ride in a car or go into a crowded place without getting a headache and sick at my stomach. I heard about Ripans Tablets from an aunt of mine who was taking them for catarrh of the stomach. She had found such relief from their use she advised me to take them too, and I have been doing so since last October, and will say they have completely cured my headaches. I am twenty-nine years old. You are welcome to use this testimonial.

Mrs. J. BROOKMYER.

My seven-year-old boy suffered with pain in his head, constipation and complained of his stomach. He could not eat like children of his age do and what he did eat did not agree with him. He was thin and of a sallow color. Reading some of the testimonials in favor of Ripans Tablets, I tried them. Ripans Tablets not only relieved but actually cured my youngster, the headaches have disappeared, he is in good condition and he never complains of his stomach. He is now a red, chubby fellow. This wonderful change I attribute to Ripans Tablets. I am satisfied that they will benefit any one (from the cradle to old age) if taken according to directions.

E. W. PRICE.

I want to inform you, in words of highest praise, of the benefit I have derived from Ripans Tablets. I am a professional nurse and in this profession a clear head is always needed. Ripans Tablets does it. After one of my cases I found myself completely run down. Acting on the advice of Mr. Geo. Bowser, Ph. G., 588 Newark Ave., Jersey City, I took Ripans Tablets with grand results.

Miss BESSIE WIDEMAN.

Mother was troubled with heartburn and sleeplessness, caused by indigestion, for a good many years. One day she saw a testimonial in the paper endorsing Ripans Tablets. She determined to give them a trial, was greatly relieved by their use and now takes the Tablets regularly. She keeps a few cartons Ripans Tablets in the house and says she will not be without them. The heartburn and sleeplessness have disappeared with the indigestion which was formerly so great a burden for her. Our whole family take the Tablets regularly, especially after a hearty meal. My mother is fifty years of age and is enjoying the best of health and spirits; also eats hearty meals, an impossibility before she took Ripans Tablets.

ANTON H. BLAUKEN.



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A new style packet containing TEN RIPAN'S TABLETS packed in a paper carton (without glass) is now for sale at some drug stores—FOR FIVE CENTS. This low-priced set is intended for the poor and the economical. One dozen of the five-cent cartons (120 tablets) can be had by mail by sending forty-eight cts. to the RIPAN'S CHEMICAL COMPANY, No. 10 Spruce Street, New York—or a single carton (TEN TABLETS) will be sent for five cents. RIPAN'S TABLETS may also be had of some grocers, general storekeepers, news agents and at all first-class drug and barber shops. They banish pain, induce sleep and prolong life. One gives relief.